

St. Helens Mist

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COUNTY OFFICIAL PAPER.

"DEMOCRACY OF THE DEAD"

All lovers of noble sentiment and elegant diction will enjoy the following masterpiece by John J. Ingalls on the death of Congressman Burnes of Missouri:

"In the democracy of the dead all men at last are equal. There is neither rank nor station nor prerogative in the republic of the grave. At this fatal threshold the philosopher ceases to be wise, and the song of the poet is silent. Dives relinquishes his millions and Lazarus his rags. The poor man is as rich as the richest and the rich man is as poor as the pauper. The creditor loses his usury, and the debtor is acquitted of his obligation. There the proud man surrenders his dignities, the politician his honors, the worldling his pleasures; the invalid needs no physician, and the laborer rests from unrequited toil.

"Here at last is nature's final decree in equity. The wrongs of time are redressed. Injustice is expiated, the irony of fate is refuted; the unequal distribution of wealth, honor, capacity, pleasure and opportunity, which makes life such a cruel and inexplicable tragedy, ceases in the realm of death. The strongest there has no supremacy, and the weakest needs no defense. The mightiest captain succumbs to that invincible adversary, who disarms alike the victor and the vanquished."

NATIONAL RURAL CREDIT SYSTEM

The passage of a rural credit bill by the Senate, with an overwhelming vote, means that a system will be established by this Congress, if the leaders are in earnest. The Senate bill could be put through the House under a special rule, at any time. There were so many amendments accepted in committee of the whole as to make it hazardous to comment on the bill until it is read in its revised form, but its salient provisions insure that the bonds based on long-term farm mortgages will be regarded as gilt-edged securities at home and abroad. The capital, surplus and undivided profits of the land banks will be exempted from all taxation, federal, state and municipal. It is likely that all the capital will be furnished by the treasury. There will be such strict federal supervision as to title and appraisal of land as to insure confidence and the securities are treated in such a manner as practically to place the credit of the nation behind them. Whatever criticism the bill may provoke will be directed at its paternalistic features. Nobody will question the marketability of the securities.

If the bill becomes a law, it will cause Oregonians who have favored an independent rural credit system under state control to hesitate. A state system, competing with a national, standardized system, familiar to all investors, would be at a tremendous disadvantage. It would be necessary to employ agents to convince investors that the Oregon securities were as good as those issued under national supervision. This would be very expensive. The Oregon bank would not be exempt from federal taxation. A few crop failures in Oregon might cause general default in interest, whereas, under a national system, such danger would be remote, for there is never a general crop failure throughout the country.

If the Senate bill has been as carefully drawn as its friends say, there will be no necessity for much expense in selling the bonds. It would not be necessary to send out agents to "boost" securities, any more than it is necessary to employ agents to convince investors how good government bonds are. This means that the rate of interest will be much lower than if the maintenance of sales agents were necessary. No state system can successfully compete with a federal system in this respect.

OUR TAXES

For the ten years ending with 1915 the taxes collected in Oregon amounted to \$145,000,000. Considering the average for the ten years, this amount is over one-fourth of the assessed valuation of property in the state.

Oregon taxes for 1915 for all purposes, state and local, were in the aggregate the sum of \$23,083,000.

The per capita taxes went up from \$11.42 in 1902 to \$30.50 per capita for the year 1913. While the population increased from 29,000 to 30,000 annually or about 7 1/2 per cent, taxes increased annually 37 per cent.

According to the United States census Montana held the per capita tax record up to 1912, \$26.80 for man, woman and child.

The total bonded indebtedness of Oregon has gone up from \$7.90 per capita in 1890 to \$71.00 per capita in 1913. (U. S. census.)

The total bonded debt at the close of 1915 was \$53,595,825, with an annual interest charge of \$2,786,853.

The above are some of the statements of facts and statistics brought out at the state taxpayers convention.

THE PROFESSOR AND THE SIMIAN

After five years of infinite painstaking, Professor Furness has taught his pet orang-utang to call him "papa." It strikes us as a doubtful compliment, but the proud professor—with

pardonable paternal pride, shall we say?—reports it to the American Philosophical Society as a triumph of anthropoidal orthodoxy and almost human intelligence.

Science will congratulate him on his great labor of love, and sympathize with regret that "Mimi" (such is the orang-utang's name) has not been able to learn more. The professor is forced to the sad conclusion that anthropoids can not be taught a connected language, or taught to reason progressively. Their conversational gifts are limited.

For our part we are glad of it. If "Mimi" could talk glibly she would probably gossip and lie and backbite and be a jibbering scandalmonger. If the male anthropoids were dowered with fluency they would probably be blatherskite politicians, or jackleg lawyers, or auctioneers of "phony" goods, or "spielers" for nostrums, or sawdust trail exhorters and hippodrome evangelists, or candidates for governor, or something else.

We are taught that we should not be ashamed of our ancestors, so long as we ourselves are good, honest men. Creditable to us descendants are the sentiments expressed by the poet of the Darwinian school:

Children behold the chimpanzee;
He sits on the ancestral tree
From which we sprung.
I'm glad we sprang—
Had we hung on
We might, for all that I can say,
Be horrid chimpanzees today.

—St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

TAKE THE TARIFF OUT OF POLITICS

Agitators of late have been very industrious advocating the taking of the tariff out of politics. It is noticeable that papers who are lining up on that issue are largely Democratic. It makes an easy slide from free trade. They realize that American industries and American labor must be protected, and from "tariff for revenue only" to "take the tariff out of politics" is now their cry. Below are numerous variations of the thought that the tariff cannot be taken out of politics.

"Take the tariff out of politics"—"take the sentiment out of love."—New York Evening Sun.

"Take the letters out of the alphabet."—New York Press.

"Take the people out of politics; take liberty out of government."—Monmouth (Ill.) Atlas, January 31.

"Take the tariff out of politics?" Why, sure, by all means—if you're the chap to do it—and at the same time, take the heartache out of booze.—Augusta (Mo.) Journal.

"Take the laughter out of childhood."—Payette (Idaho) Independent.

"Take the tariff out of politics," shout the Democratic statesmen as a faint hope. Yes, take the color out of the rainbow. When the Democracy admit that we are right and they are wrong, let us enact a protective tariff, and quit tampering with it. The tariff will be out of politics, but not until then.—Batavia (G.) Courier.

"Take the tariff out of politics?"—with ease! Take the wind out of tornado and the water out of seas; take the light out of sunshine and the cold out of frosts.

"Take the tariff out of politics?"—for sure! Take care out of safety and healing out of cure; take stable out of stability—no nation will endure.—Cheaterton (Md.) Eterprise.

"Take the value out of money,
Take the sting out of bees,
Take the sweetness out of honey,
Take the timber out of trees."
—Newport (N. H.) Champion.

"Take the tariff out of politics? Take the hugs and kisses out of spooning."—Marion (Ill.) anonymous correspondent.

"Take the tariff out of politics,"
Take the moisture out of rain,
Take the colors from the rainbow,
Take the kernel out of grain.
—Brookfield (Mo.) Gazette.

REVISING THE MARRIAGE CEREMONY

Agitation has begun in the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, in session at Saratoga Springs, for further change of the marriage ceremony. The bride's promise to obey was eliminated several years ago, without disastrous results, and now the reformers would omit from the ring ceremony the words, "and with my worldly goods I thee endow." They cause an impecunious groom to imagine the wedding guests are tittering. Furthermore, statutes are made and provided for endowment. But why use the ring at all? Although some profess to see in the mystic circle an emblem of continuous, never-ending affection, it historically symbolizes the fetter with which the bride was bound in the days when men got brides by capture instead of purchase or wooing. The "best man" is also a survival of the time when the friend of the bridegroom stood off the bride's relatives with a sword or a club. A ring has its value, after marriage, especially to novelists, but its use in the ceremony is anachronistic, in these days of wifely freedom. If any ring is used at all, it would be better to follow the elaborate ceremony of the Greek Church and have rings exchanged.

But there have been few ceremonies that did not contain some signs of wifely subjection. In Hungary the groom administered a gentle kick to the bride; in Russia the father touched her with a new whip, which he presented to the groom, and in Croatia the groom boxed the bride's ears. The tapping of the bride on the head with an old shoe, later presented to the groom, was another popular way of reminding her of her proper place in the matrimonial system.

Dr. Charles E. Page, head of the health school, Boston, says there are no germs in kissing and says that those who put the bug in kissing are crazy. Good for you, doctor. We had not ceased our osculatory privileges anyhow. Dr. Page is our choice for president.

CLOSING EXERCISES QUINCY SCHOOL

Program, Attendance Report, Patrons and Visitors.

Program May 12, 1916.

- 1. Song—"Dip, boys, Dip the Oar".....Boys of Room 1
- 2. Recitation.....Edla Mickelson
- 3. Recitation.....Edla Mickelson
- 4. Recitation.....Elsie O'Hilla
- 5. "Daisy Song".....Girls of Room 1
- 6. Recitation.....Lily Tepna
- 7. "Swinging Song".....Girls of Room 1
- 8. Recitation—"Don't Tell".....Ida Dixon
- 9. Song—"Robin's Return".....Eva Erkkila
- 10. Recitation—"A Question".....Scholars of Rooms 1 and 2
- 11. Song—"Parowell, My Home".....Irene Mattanen
- 12. Song—"Lilac Blossoms".....Room 2
- 13. Recitation—"School Days".....Ellen Oberg
- 14. Recitation—"A Boy's Plea".....Fred Dixon
- 15. Recitation—"A Junior Partner Wanted".....Waino Bankks
- 16. Song.....Girls of Advanced Room and Room 3
- 17. Recitation—"The Night Wind".....Jacob Erickson
- 18. Recitation—"Bill's In the Legislature".....Olaf Erickson
- 19. Recitation.....Charlote and Marjy Overlie
- 20. Recitation.....Ester Pumola
- 21. Song.....Mrs. M. Lumjarvi
- 22. Recitation.....Alec Dixon
- 23. Recitation.....Frank Frost
- 24. Festoon Song—"Springtime".....Room 2
- 25. Winding the Maypole and Crowning of May Queen.....Rooms 1 and 2
- 26. Basket Ball.....By boys

Names of scholars who were neither absent nor tardy during the entire eight months school was in session:

Ellen Mannila, Harold Mattson, Alec Dixon, Sylvia Lumjarvi, Ellen Linden, Marie Salmi, Tynnie Salmi, Walter Mannila.

Names of scholars who were neither absent nor tardy for six months out of eight, and who received certificates of attendance:

Sana Leinonen, Marie Salmi, Frank Frost, Hilda Erkkila, Tynnie Salmi, Ansel Salmi, Eather Lumjarvi, Elsie Vuikkala, Freddie Johnson, Theodore Mannila, Irene Mattanen, Anna Hapala, Martha Tolva, Ellen Kangas, Alec Dixon, Harold Vuikkaja, Waino Bakko, Raymond Hermo, Ellen Oberg, Walter Linden, Reuben Mickelson, Walter Mannila, Samuel Lumjarvi, Victor Pumola, Eino Dahlman, Albert Johnson, Alpha Mattson, Hilda Dixon, Florence O'Hilla, Eva Erkkila, Ellen Salmi, Sylvia Lumjarvi, Enes Wickstrom, Ellen Linden, Fred Dixon, Ellen Larson, Elsie Hermo, Lizzie Larson, Ellen Mannila, Harold Mattson.

Enes Wickstrom, a fifth grade scholar, about twelve years of age, walked from Clatskanie to Quincy, a distance of three miles, all winter.

Annual Report District 25.

Number days taught.....	154
Whole number days attendance.....	17,098 1/2
Number days absent.....	1,569
Number times late.....	33
Average number pupils neither absent nor late.....	63.4
Average number pupils on roll of honor.....	45.6
Number cases reported to truant officer.....	6
Average number pupils belonging.....	129.4
Average daily attendance.....	116.7
Average per cent of attendance.....	91.5
Number pupils in grades above the eighth.....	2
Number books in library.....	393
Number new books purchased.....	39
Number visits by parents.....	67
Number visits by district officers.....	12
Number public meetings in school house.....	2
Visitors who attended exercises May 12, 1916:	

Mrs. Salmon, Mrs. Tepna, Mrs. Theo. Jolma, Mrs. Linden, Mrs. O'Hilla, Mrs. Hovi, Mrs. Dixon, Miss Hanna Mattson, Mrs. Leinonen, Miss Matts, Mrs. Salmi, Miss Backlund, Miss Helmo, Miss Erickson, Mrs. M. Lumjarvi, Mr. Martin Lumjarvi, Mrs. H. Lumjarvi, Mrs. Mickelson, Mrs. Vuikkala, Miss Hilda Salmi, Mr. R. Van Isdol, Miss Hendrickson, Miss Brown, Miss J. Powers, Mrs. Powers, Mrs. Lylic, Miss Alpha Payne, Miss M. Overlie, Alf Pumola, Fred Pumola, John Hossa, Olga Baeno, Lydia Baeno, Pete Heikkinen, Mr. Bussu, Mrs. E. Lumjarvi, Mrs. Tipola, Mrs. Hilman, Mrs. Smith, Mrs. Oberg, Mrs. Manilla, Mrs. E. Mattson, Miss Elkkila, Mrs. Pumala, Miss J. Jolma, Mrs. Johnson, Mrs. Dahlman.

UNCLAIMED LETTERS.

Letters unclaimed at the St. Helens, Oregon, post office for the week ending May 13, 1916:

Mr. H. E. Dunn, Mrs. Jan. Graw, George Holm, Mr. E. A. Koontz, Mr. S. Meloni, C. W. Parsons, Mrs. Howard Ross, Mr. Albert Robinson.

Letters unclaimed by May 27, 1916, will be sent to the Division of Dead Letters.

IVA E. DODD, P. M.

LIBRARY NEWS

Owing to lack of patronage it has been decided best to discontinue holding the library open Tuesday afternoon, but it will be open Tuesday evening from 7 to 9 and Saturday afternoon and evening.

There have been several books recently presented, as well as magazines. We also have purchased 25 new books by popular authors. Most of these are rent books at 5 cents per week.

We have also just had two good lights put in, which will make the room suitable for a reading room as planned.

Everyone is welcome to use the books and we will be glad to have the reading room used. Also be very thankful for any material for the reading table.

LIBRARY COMMITTEE.



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